

May 13, 2015

Item No. 3

**1) RATIFY AND ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD") IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000,000 FOR THE JOBS PLUS PILOT PROGRAM ("JOBS PLUS") AND INCREASE THE FY2015 COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET, SPECIFICALLY THE RESIDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT BUDGET ACCORDINGLY THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THE FOUR YEAR GRANT (COST CENTER 362). AND 2) ENTER INTO SUB-CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH THE NAMED PARTNERS FOR THE GRANT, CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP ("CCWP") IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$773,000 AND METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES ("MFS") IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$800,000.**

**To the Honorable Board of Commissioners:**

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners ("Board") authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to: 1) Ratify and accept a grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the Jobs Plus Pilot Program ("Jobs Plus") and increase the Resident Services Department budget accordingly throughout the duration of the four year grant (Cost center 362). This grant award from HUD may only be utilized to support CHA's efforts to improve employment and earnings outcomes for residents of Altgeld Gardens through supports such as work readiness, employer linkages, job placement and financial literacy; and 2) Enter into sub-contract agreements with the named partners for the grant, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership ("CCWP") in an amount not-to-exceed \$773,000 and Metropolitan Family Services ("MFS") in an amount not-to-exceed \$800,000.

**CORPORATE GOAL**

Jobs Plus supports CHA's corporate goal of empowering individuals for success in the global economy while providing targeted services to residents at critical milestones in their lives, while living in a safe, decent and sustainable housing portfolio.

**FUNDING**

CHA General and Grant Funds

HUD Jobs Plus Pilot Program (Grant Funds)	\$ 3,000,000
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership Sub-Contract (\$773,000)	
Metropolitan Family Services Sub-Contract (\$800,000)	
Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard to be added to Resident Services budget (\$1,427,000)	

## **GENERAL BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the Jobs Plus Pilot program is to develop locally-based, job driven approaches to increase earnings and advance employment outcomes through work readiness, employer linkages, job placement, educational advancement technology skills, and financial literacy for residents of public housing. The place-based Jobs Plus Pilot program addresses poverty among public housing residents by incentivizing and enabling employment through income disregards for working families, and a set of services designed to support work including employer linkages, job placement and counseling, educational advancement, and financial counseling.

CHA has identified a Core Group, an Advisory Board and support partners for the implementation of the CHA Jobs Plus Pilot program at Altgeld Gardens. The Core Group consists of CHA, the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (CCWP) and the FamilyWorks provider at Altgeld Gardens, Metropolitan Family Services (MFS). CHA will assume the lead, while CCWP will oversee employer and industry relations. MFS will assume the daily, on the ground program implementation. The Jobs Plus Advisory Board will consist of the Core Group members, as well as the industry partners, Local Advisory Council and the community coaches. The Advisory Board will provide input into program operations and facilitate sub-groups necessary to address specific issues and sustainability of the Jobs Plus program and will utilize the support partners and other local resources for input on specific needs and requirements as the Jobs Plus program moves through the implementation phase and into a sustainable community program.

CHA has chosen to focus a significant portion of Jobs Plus program implementation on the manufacturing and hospitality sectors. Both these industries have ample growth opportunity in the communities immediately surrounding Altgeld Gardens and will see significant growth throughout the Chicagoland area in the near future. CCWP will utilize its existing relationships with the Calumet Area Industrial Commission (CAIC) and Educational Data Systems, Inc. (EDSI) who will serve as industry specific partners to develop customized training for the target manufacturing and hospitality industries. Program design components consist of:

### **Employment-Related Services**

- MFS will conduct outreach, engagement and retention activities
- MFS will offer a comprehensive menu of available employment and workforce development resources such as Job readiness training, workforce preparation workshops, networking events, job clubs, education and literacy services, computer/technology resources, business and employer partners, and as available, subsidized transitional job and on-the-job training programs.
- MFS will facilitate additional workforce and employments supports such as assessing participants' eligibility for income supports and benefits (e.g. Earned Income Tax Credit) and facilitate twice monthly Job Club activities.
- Additional supports include utilizing the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) testing and education action planning. MFS staff will assist participants with limited literacy skills and limited education (GED preparation) by identifying specific education goals and action steps that will lead to larger, more long-term planning.

- CCWP will focus on establishing and maintaining employer relations in the targeted industries, as well as overseeing the relationships with CAIC and EDSI as industry specific training partners.
- As the FamilyWorks provider for Altgeld, MFS will be responsible for ensuring that participants have the necessary supports to enable work such as youth services and child care enrollment, work attire, transportation, lease compliance, digital and financial literacy training and other supports as needed.

Financial Incentives that “Make Work Pay”

- Participates in Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (“JPEID”) will have 100% of the tenant payment increased waived for the first 12 months of increased income from wages; for months 13 – 48 (or the expiration of the Jobs Plus program), the JPEID will remain at 100%

Community Supports for Work

- MFS will train and hire residents to be community coaches to perform a variety of activities including marketing the various aspects of the Jobs Plus program and getting information about job opportunities into the informal flow of information among residents.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with all applicable Chicago Housing Authority Board policies and all applicable federal (HUD) procurement laws.

The Chief Financial Officer and the Deputy Chief Housing Officer of Resident Services concur with the recommendation to ratify and accept a grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the Jobs Plus Pilot Program (“Jobs Plus”) and increase the FY2015 Comprehensive Budget specifically, the Resident Services Department budget accordingly throughout the duration of the four year grant; and enter into sub-contract agreements with the named partners for the grant, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (“CCWP”) in an amount not-to-exceed \$773,000 and Metropolitan Family Services (“MFS”) in an amount not-to-exceed \$800,000.

The CEO/President recommends the Board to ratify and accept a grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the Jobs Plus Pilot Program (“Jobs Plus”) and increase the FY2015 Comprehensive Budget, specifically the Resident Services Department budget accordingly throughout the duration of the four year grant; and enter into sub-contract agreements with the named partners for the grant, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (“CCWP”) in an amount not-to-exceed \$773,000 and Metropolitan Family Services (“MFS”) in an amount not-to-exceed \$800,000.

The Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Chief Housing Officer of Resident Services, the Office of the General Counsel and the Department of Procurement and Contracts have completed all necessary due diligence to support the submission of this initiative and recommend the approval of this item accordingly.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-CHA-38**

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the Board Letter dated May 13, 2015 entitled "1) RATIFY AND ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ("HUD") IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000,000 FOR THE JOBS PLUS PILOT PROGRAM ("JOBS PLUS") AND INCREASE THE RESIDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT BUDGET ACCORDINGLY THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THE FOUR YEAR GRANT (COST CENTER 362); AND 2) ENTER INTO SUB-CONTRACT AGREEMENTS WITH THE NAMED PARTNERS FOR THE GRANT, CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP ("CCWP") IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$773,000 AND METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES ("MFS") IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$800,000.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**THAT** the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to:

- 1) Ratify and accept a grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") in the amount of \$3,000,000 for the Jobs Plus Pilot Program ("Jobs Plus") and increase the Resident Services Department budget accordingly throughout the duration of the four year grant (Cost center 362); and 2) Enter into sub-contract agreements with the named partners for the grant, Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership ("CCWP") in an amount not-to-exceed \$773,000 and Metropolitan Family Services ("MFS") in an amount not-to-exceed \$800,000.

This award is subject to the Contractor's compliance with the CHA's MBE/WBE/DBE, Section 3 and insurance requirements.



Chicago Housing Authority  
60 E. Van Buren  
Chicago, IL 60605

312-742-8500

[www.thecha.org](http://www.thecha.org)